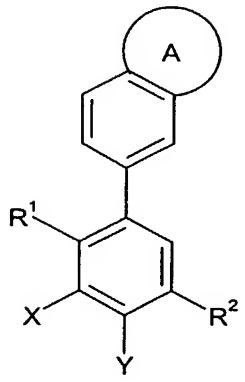
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring substituted by -$(CH_2)_m$heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_n$phenyl, -OR^3, -$(CH_2)_nCO_2R^3$, -NR^3R^4 and -$CONR^3R^4$, and

A is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from -OR^3, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -CN, -CO_2R^3 and C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;

R^1 is selected from methyl and chloro;

R^2 is selected from -NH-CO-R^5 and -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_q$-R^6;

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^5 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_r$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^7 and/or R^8, and -$(CH_2)_r$phenyl optionally substituted by R^7 and/or R^8;

R^6 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONHR^9$, phenyl optionally substituted by R^7 and/or R^8, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^7 and/or R^8;

R^7 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONR^9R^{10}$, -$NHCOR^{10}$, halogen, -CN, -$(CH_2)_sNR^{11}R^{12}$, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R^8 groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R^8 groups;

R^8 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -$(CH_2)_sNR^{11}R^{12}$;

R^9 and R^{10} are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^9 and R^{10}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{13}, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C_{1-6}alkyl groups;

R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl,

R^{12} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{11} and R^{12}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{13};

R^{13} is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

m and q are each independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

n and r are each independently selected from 0 and 1; and

s is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

with the proviso that:

A is not substituted by -$(CH_2)_m$$NR^{14}R^{15}$ wherein R^{14} and R^{15}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulphur and NR^{16} wherein R^{16} is hydrogen or methyl,

when m is 0, the -$(CH_2)_m$heterocyclyl group is not a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl or -$(CH_2)_n$$CO_2R^3$, and

the compound of formula (I) is not 1,1-dimethylethyl 4-(6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-2-methylphenyl}-1,2-benzisoxazol-3-yl)-1-piperazinecarboxylate;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein A is substituted by -$(CH_2)_m$heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_n$phenyl, -OR^3, -$(CH_2)_n$$CO_2R^3$, -$NR^3R^4$ and -$CONR^3R^4$.

4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R^1 is methyl.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_q$-R^6.

6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X is fluorine.

7. A compound according to claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore defined with reference to any one of Examples 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

8. A compound selected from:
N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-indazol-5-yl]benzamide;
N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(tetrahydro-2-furanylmethyl)-1*H*-indazol-5-yl]benzamide; and
3-{1-[(4-benzylmorpholin-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indazol-5-yl}-*N*-cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-4-methylbenzamide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents and/or carriers.

10. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in therapy.

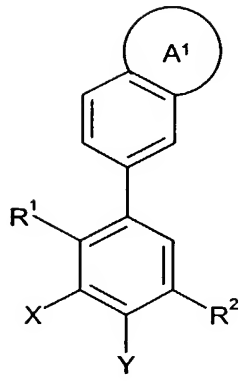
11. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

12. A method for treating a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

13. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

14. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, which comprises:

(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



(II)

in which R^1, R^2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1 and A^1 is an unsubstituted fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring,

with a halide derivative of formula (III)

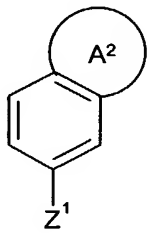
$$Z\text{-}(CH_2)_m\text{heterocyclyl}$$

(III)

in which $-(CH_2)_m$heterocyclyl is as defined in claim 1 and Z is halogen,

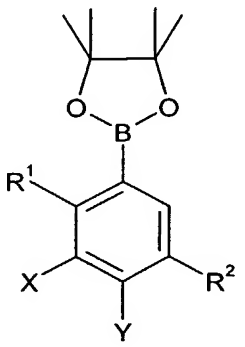
in the presence of a base;

(b) reacting a compound of formula (IV)

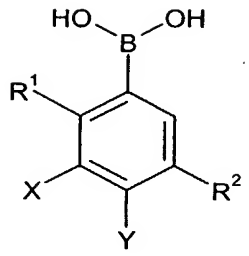


(IV)

in which A^2 is A as defined in claim 1 or a protected form of A or A^1, and Z^1 is halogen, with a compound of formula (VA) or (VB)



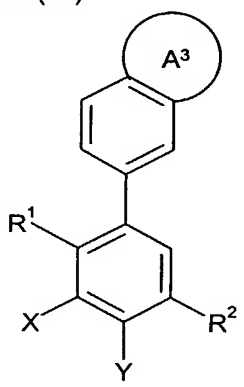
(VA)



(VB)

in which R^1, R^2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1, in the presence of a catalyst;

(c) reacting a compound of formula (XI)



(XI)

in which R^1, R^2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1 and A^3 is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring substituted by $-(CH_2)_m$heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is unsubstituted, with a suitable reagent; or

(d) final stage modification of one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 to give another compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1.